

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 621  
By Finney

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Benjamin T. Clabo upon being honored as Sevier County Schools 2006 Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pay tribute to those exemplary professionals who have dedicated their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin T. Clabo, who teaches at Pigeon Forge High School in the Sevier County School District, is most assuredly one such superlative professional who is deserving of special recognition; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clabo was recently selected as Sevier County Schools 2006 Teacher of the Year for the ninth through twelfth grades, an honor most befitting his outstanding tenure as a teacher, as it recognizes the positive influence he has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, seeking to provide his students with a basis for growing into successful, positive members of society, Benjamin T. Clabo earned a bachelor's degree at Tennessee Technological University, a master's degree at University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and he is currently a Ph.D. candidate at University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clabo has served with acumen and alacrity as a tenth grade English teacher at Pigeon Forge High School, and he also teaches public speaking to all grades; Mr. Clabo, following his parents' examples, has chosen to spend his life in teaching so that he may become a positive and beneficial influence in the lives of young people; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin Clabo views teaching as a calling, not a job, and his greatest reward in teaching is watching a student master a new concept or skill and understanding that this knowledge is part of a continual process of learning that will empower and enrich his or her

life; Mr. Clabo especially enjoys instructing students in literary analysis, persuasive writing, vocabulary, and speaking and presentation; and

WHEREAS, as the 2006 Sevier County Teacher of the Year for grades nine through twelve, Mr. Clabo is being recognized for his effective teaching practices, his professionalism, and his participation in building a strong community-school partnership; a panel of supervisors, administrators and past teachers of the year has selected him from all nominees to receive this award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clabo is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate his students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; he truly serves as an inspiration to his colleagues and students alike, and his friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know him; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin T. Clabo truly epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate Benjamin T. Clabo on being chosen as Sevier County Schools 2006 Teacher of the Year for grades nine through twelve, and honor him for his generous dedication to his students and his community and the positive impact he makes on the lives of his students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.